March 27, 1968

Joel Palmer
1751 Havana Ave. S.W.
Wyoming, Mich.

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Rt. 7
Frederick, Md.

Dear Harold,

I am very disconcerted. You asked me about the pictures I sent you, especially in regard to the gentleman with the rifle. I was concerned about him while viewing the film because there was something quite sinister and not kosher about him. Since Penn Jones is located in that area, I checked with him as to the type of weapons Texas law officers carry and whether any of them were carrying rifles at the time of the assassination. I was told that no one was carrying a rifle. I then sent him of picture ~~of what I~~ similar to the ones I sent you and asked him to confirm whether these are used down there. He told me that the weapon in the picture is a shotgun, a not uncommon weapon for Dallas policemen to have. He advised me that there was nothing out of the ordinary in the picture.

Now I don't know whom is putting who on but I have had a weapons expert confirm the fact that that weapon is an automatic rifle, probably a Browning high-power. I realize that Penn is concerned about security leaks but I don't feel that that kind of thing furthers anything. I have gone to considerable expense, time and trouble to help in my small way and do not like being put on. There is always the possibility that his people misread the gun type. If I am wrong please tell me and if there is no room for fresh blood in this investigation I would like to know that too. I am under the impression that cooperation is the key to this thing.

Getting back to more specific info on the film, I appraised it this way: The opening sequence shows the camera advancing toward what appears to be the grassy knoll area. It then cuts to Parkland Hospital for several frames. Then we are inside of the Book Depository and in the opening shots we see the man whom I have mentioned, carrying the rifle. I don't know the time laspe b etween the assassination and the photographer's entrance into the building. If the film has not been edited, we must assume that it was at least fifteen minutes, due to his trip to Parkland. At any rate, the man disappears from the scene an d we next see the search and finally the recovery of the alleged assassination weapon. The man who was in the original frames does not appear in any of the search frames. I assume t hat he has left the building. Incidentally, the alleged murder weapon seemed to be very carefully hidden be tween the boxes where it was found. There was only a small opening there, rather difficult to throw anything into. Looked as if it were laid there carefully.

Looking forward to seeing you in Detroit when you do Lou Gordon show.

Best,

Joel